

REMARKS

The fact that April 14, 2007, fell on a Saturday ensures that this paper is timely filed as of April 16, 2007, the next business day.

In the Office Action dated November 14, 2007, pending Claims 19-49 were rejected and the rejection made final. In response Applicants have filed herewith an Amendment After Final and have amended independent Claims 19, 25, 31, 39, 47-49. Applicants intend no change in the scope of the claims by the changes made by this amendment. It should be noted these amendments are not in acquiescence of the Office's position on allowability of the claims, but merely to expedite prosecution.

Applicants and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. On March 15, 2007, Applicants' counsel conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner in which the present application was discussed. It was agreed that in response to the amendments made herein would obviate the outstanding rejections and result in allowance of the application.

Claim 47 stands rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) as being anticipated by Bonastre et al. Claims 19-20, 22-26, 28-31, 33-39, 41-46 and 48-49 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Bonastre in view of Glickman et al.

Claims 19, 25, 31, 39, 47-49 are independent claims; the remaining claims are dependent claims. All of the independent claims, except for Claim 47, contain a wherein clause which has rewritten to recite "wherein each speaker is processed using a different

dictionary of different speaker-trained data". This clause was rewritten by replacing the phrase "different topics" at the end of the wherein clause with the phrase -- different speaker-trained data --. Claim 47 was rewritten by inserting -- of different speaker-trained data -- after the phrase "speaker-specific dictionaries" in the preamble and last clause of the claim.

Support for the "different speaker-trained data" language may be found in the application as filed, including at the top of Page 13. Referring to Fig. 3, the application states "[a] speech recognition system (SRS) 330 has implemented a speaker model and/or dictionary change utility 340 which has access to **different speaker-trained data** 360, 370 stored in database 350. Dependent on allegedly detected speaker changes, the dictionary change utility 340 can interchange between the different models 350, 370 thus providing an optimized multi-user SRS." (emphasis added)

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claims 19, 25, 31, 39 and 47-49 fully distinguish over the applied art and are thus allowable. By virtue of dependence from Claims 19, 25, 31 and 39, it is thus also submitted that Claims 20-24, 26-30, 32-38 and 40-46 are also allowable at this juncture.

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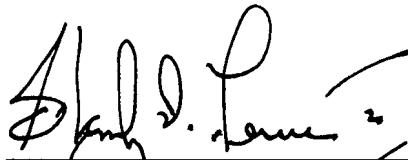
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In summary, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application, including Claims 19-49, is presently in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited. If there are any further issues in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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